

(e) the amount of expenditure incurred by the Government on their journeys performed during 1997 till date ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATRAJAN) : (a) to (e) Information is being collected.

[English]

Construction of bridge over River Brahmaputra at Jogighopa

250. DR. PRABINCHANDRA SARMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the construction of the bridge over Brahmaputra at Jogighopa is likely to be completed by December 1997 ;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ;

(c) whether the Railway line from Jogighopa to Guwahati is likely to be completed by the end of 1998; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir, subject to availability of resources.

(d) Does not arise.

Auction of Uncleared Cargo

251. SHRI SURESH R. JADHAV : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Airports Authority of India has auctioned the uncleared cargo at Mumbai, Delhi, Chennai and Calcutta airports ; and

(b) if so, the proceeds received so far from such auctions ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATRAJAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The auction of uncleared cargo at Mumbai and Delhi has already started. The process of auction in Chennai and Calcutta shall begin from the last week of November, 1997. The proceeds received upto 8th November 1997 at Mumbai is Rs. 6,61,06,029/- and at IGI Airport, Delhi is Rs. 1,39,05,016/-.

Height of T.V. Tower at Dibrugarh

252. SHRI KESHAB MAHANTA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the height of the T.V. Tower at Dibrugarh (Assam) in order to facilitate more viewers ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY) : (a) and (b) The transmitting antenna of the 10 KW High power TV transmitter (HPT) at Dibrugarh had to be mounted on a 75 m tower as against the normal tower height of 150 m for such HPTS, due to height restriction by the standing Advisory Committee on Frequency Allocation (SACFA). The matter has been taken up again with SACFA and any increase in tower height would depend on clearance by the concerned authorities.

[Translation]

HPT at Ajmer in Rajasthan

253. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the progress made in setting up of High Power Transmitter in Ajmer, Rajasthan;

(b) the reasons for keeping the work pending; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be taken up and completed ?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY) : (a) to (c) The Scheme for setting up a High power TV transmitter (HPT) at Taragarh Fort Hill in Ajmer has been approved by the competent authority and equipment was also procured. The scheme could not be taken up for implementation earlier for want of approach road to the HPT site and the objections raised by the Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH). The approach road has since been completed. Work on the site has already commenced. The project is expected to be completed by 2000-2001.

[English]

Suburban Passengers

254. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of suburban passengers travelled in Delhi, Mumbai, Calcutta and Chennai during 1995-96 and 1996-97, Metro-wise;